

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3781

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

CINCPACREPPHIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, RP

SUBJ: INDOPAC RESEARCH VESSEL

REF: (A) SECSTATE 081295, (B) STATE 069836

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN ADVISED BY NATIONAL SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S MARINE COMMITTEE THAT IT WISHES TO HAVE SCIENTISTS JOIN INDOPAC'S RESEARCH CRUISE. INTEREST WAS EXPRESSED IN LEGS 3, 6 AND 7 RATHER THAN 4, 5, 6, AND 7 AS SUGGESTED IN REF. B. BEFORE MAKING A DETERMINATION AS TO WHETHER PHILIPPINE SCIENTISTS WILL INDEED WISH TO PARTICIPATE, AND WHICH AGENCIES WILL BE REPRESENTED, THE NSDB HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY WHAT EXPENSES WOULD BE INVOLVED AND SPECIFIC POINTS OF BOARDING AND DISEMBARKING. EMBASSY VOLUNTEERED ON BASIS OF DESCRIPTION PREPARED BY SCRIPPS INSTITUTE THAT LEG 3 STARTED AND ENDED IN GUAM, THAT LEG 6 STARTED IN KEELUNG AND ENDED IN SUBIC AND LEG 7 STARTED IN SUBIC AND ENDED IN DARWIN. EMBASSY SAID IT WOULD EXPECT THE GOP WOULD HAVE TO PAY TRANSPORTATION OF RESEARCHERS BOTH TO JOIN VESSEL AND TO RETURN TO THE PHILIPPINES; IT ASSUMED THERE WOULD BE NO ON-BOARD COSTS.

2. IN ADDITION TO ANSWERING QUESTIONS ADDRESSED TO US BY NSDB, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF DEPARTMENT WOULD INDICATE SPECIFICALLY HOW MANY SCIENTISTS SCRIPPS INSTI-
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TUTE PREPARED TO HAVE ON BOARD FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

NSDB NOW TALKING IN TERMS OF REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AND ONE OR MORE GOVERN-
MENT AGENCY. WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY RESPONSE TO FACILITATE
DECISION BY IMPECUNIOUS NSDB.
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